

# **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**



Fourth Week of Advent SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023





At Church of the Savior, our vision is to grow in "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life." We hope you sense God's presence and our warm welcome. We'd love to meet you in the foyer after the service. --Fr. Kevin and Mtr. Karen

**About Our Worship:** We use an Anglican liturgy. Liturgy simply means that everyone gets to participate, so please join in as you feel comfortable.

**Children's Worship:** Nursery is available for children 6 months through 4 years. Children's Worship rooms are available for children Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, and 3rd to 5th Grade. You may choose to keep children with your family, and coloring pages will be available to all.

**Assisted Listening or Noise Cancelling Headphones**: Pick up a loop in the livestream booth (the door to the right of the fireplace in the Fireside Room). An usher can guide you there. Noise cancelling headphones are available at the info table for those who might be sensitive to noise.

**Today is the Fourth and Final Week in Advent,** which means for us – and for the children in our lives! – excitement builds as the waiting for Christmas is nearly over. As we count down to Christmas and celebrate Christ's first coming, let us also look forward to his second coming. As Jesus told his followers, "Stand straight and look up! For your salvation is near. All will see me, the Messiah, coming in the clouds with great power and glory. Keep a sharp lookout! Don't let me find you sleeping. Watch for my return!" (Luke 21:28; Mark 13:26, 35-37)

Want to Stay in Touch? Let us know how at FriendsOf The Savior.org/visitor

#### PRELUDE & WELCOME

Please enjoy a few moments of silence during the prelude to prepare for worship.

# THE WORD OF GOD

#### PROCESSIONAL

You may stand.

# Hail to The Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong; to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend; his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end. The tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.

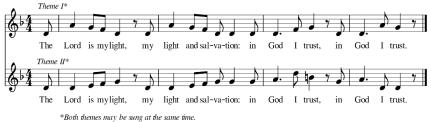
#### THE PRAYER FOR LIGHT

- Celebrant: Our King and Savior now draws near. All: Come let us adore him.
- Celebrant: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Let us pray.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Lord is My Light

During the song, acolytes will light candles in the Advent wreath and on the altar.



Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the acolyte to Children's Worship during the next song.

# **Everlasting God**

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord.

Our God, You reign forever. Our Hope, our strong Deliv'rer.

You are the everlasting God, The everlasting God, You do not faint, You won't grow weary. You're the defender of the weak, You comfort those in need. You lift us up on wings like eagles.

# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. All: And also with you. Celebrant: Let us pray.

> Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

#### THE FIRST READING

After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup> he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."

<sup>3</sup> Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you."

<sup>4</sup> But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:

<sup>5</sup> "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup> I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. <sup>7</sup> Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"

<sup>8</sup> "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup> I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. <sup>10</sup> And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning <sup>11</sup> and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

"'The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you:

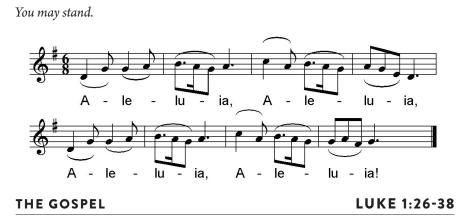
<sup>16</sup> Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

- <sup>1</sup> Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \* from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- <sup>2</sup> For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \* you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- <sup>3</sup> "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \* I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- <sup>4</sup> 'I will establish your line for ever, \* and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
- <sup>19</sup> You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: \* "I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- <sup>20</sup> I have found David my servant; \* with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- <sup>21</sup> My hand will hold him fast \* and my arm will make him strong.
- <sup>22</sup> No enemy shall deceive him, \* nor any wicked man bring him down.
- $^{23}$  I will crush his foes before him \* and strike down those who hate him.
- <sup>24</sup> My faithfulness and love shall be with him, \* and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- <sup>25</sup> I shall make his dominion extend \* from the Great Sea to the River.
- <sup>26</sup> He will say to me, 'You are my Father, \* my God, and the rock of my salvation.'"

 $^{25}$  Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past,  $^{26}$  but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith— $^{27}$  to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.



#### ALLELUIA

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the

Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

<sup>34</sup> "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup> The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For no word from God will ever fail."

<sup>38</sup> "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

# ALLELUIA

Please be seated.



# The Annunciation

Ellen Hsu Savior Member

We take a few minutes of silence to reflect, pray, and listen for what God may be saying.

#### THE NICENE CREED

#### You may stand.

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen. Intercessor: Come, Lord Jesus. Come, light of the world! All:



# THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please sit or kneel for a time of silence.

- All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.
- Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

#### THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. All: And also with you.

At this time, parents should pick up their children from the nursery and Children's Worship.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

## THE OFFERTORY

## Mary's Song

My soul magnifies the Lord; My spirit rejoices in God! My Savior has seen his servant in need, and behold the great things He has done:

He scatters the proud and rich; He lifts up the humble and weak. The kings of the earth, He casts from their thrones and the hungry He welcomes to feast.

Oh, behold, my Savior has come! And my soul will tell of His praise For He Who is strong has come to the weak and, at last, He will reign as our King of Peace.

From now to the end of time The nations will know me as blest For God has made new His promise of love And mercy through Abraham's seed.

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The Psalm was taken from The Book of Common Prayer, public domain.

## THE DOXOLOGY

You may stand.



- Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
  - All: And also with you.
- Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
  - All: We lift them to the Lord.
- Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
  - All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### Sanctus



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

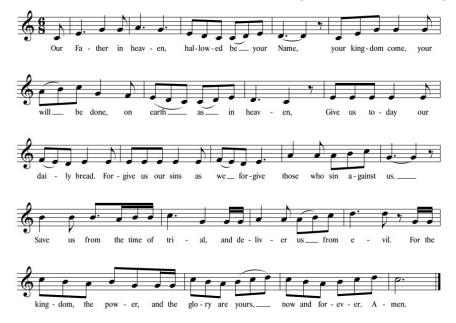
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

All: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

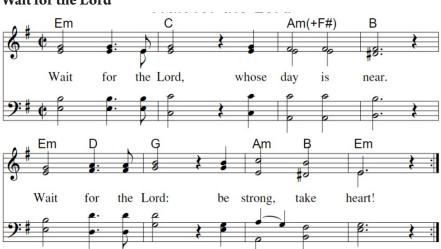
Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing



- Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!
- Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please join us for Communion: all who are baptized and seeking to follow Jesus are welcome. If that doesn't describe you, simply say "Blessing," or cross your arms, and the minister distributing bread will pray a short prayer for God's favor on your life. The first tray contains wine; the second contains grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer, a prayer minister is available in the foyer. During the season of Advent, we invite you to light a candle at the candle table during Communion. You may light a candle to represent a prayer or a thanksgiving, or to remember that Jesus is the Light of the World. Children should have adult supervision to light a candle.

# COMMUNION SONGS



# Wait for the Lord

# Hark the Glad Sound

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long; Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure, And with the treasures of His grace To enrich the humble poor

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, Your welcome shall proclaim, And heav'n's eternal arches Ring with Your beloved name.

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"Everlasting God" Brenton Brown | Ken Riley © 2005 Thankyou Music

"The Lord is My Light"

"Celtic Alleluia" Music: Fintan O'Carroll 1985, GIA Publications, Inc. "Kyrie Eleison"

"Mary's Song (Our King Of Peace)" Wendell Kimbrough © 2014 Kimbrough, Wendell "Doxology" Thomas Ken, 1637-1711Tune: Genevan Psalter, 1551 Edition; attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561; Public Domain.

"Holy Lord" ©Steve Bell "Acclamation" ©Rakes, 2023

"The Lords Prayer" ©Rakes, 2023

"Wait for the Lord" Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6-7; Taizé Community, 1984 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994 ©1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent "Hark the Glad Sound" Text: Philip Doddridge Tune: Thomas Haweis ©Public Domain

"God of Justice" Tim Hughes © 2004 Thankyou Music

"How Great Is Our God" Christ Tomlin J Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves Vamos Publishing worshiptogether.com songs Wondrousty Made Songs "Celltic Benediction" © 1999 Northumbria Community Trust CCLI License #2583835

# God of Justice

God of Justice, Savior to all, Came to rescue the weak and the poor; Chose to serve and not be served. Jesus, You have called us. Freely we've received, Now freely we will give.

We must go, Live to feed the hungry, Stand beside the broken, We must go. Stepping forward, Keep us from just singing, Move us into action, We must go.

To act justly every day, Loving mercy in every way; Walking humbly before You, God. You have shown us what You require Freely we've received Now freely we will give

Fill us up and send us out, Fill us up and send us out, Fill us up and send us out, Lord.

# How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King, Clothed in majesty; Let all the earth rejoice, All the earth rejoice. He wraps Himself in light, And darkness tries to hide, And trembles at His voice, And trembles at His voice.

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God! And all will see how great, How great is our God!

And age to age He stands, And time is in His hands; Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End. The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son, The Lion and the Lamb, The Lion and the Lamb.

Name above all names, Worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!

# Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen. Celebrant: May you, who rejoice in the first coming of our Savior, at his second coming be rewarded with unending life. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

You may be seated.

#### RECESSIONAL

#### **Celtic Benediction**

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, Wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, Protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you, May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

#### THE DISMISSAL

- Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.
  - All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Christmas Eve at Savior**

Our Christmas Eve service will be held tomorrow, December 24, at 7pm. Children are welcome in the service and coloring pages will be provided. We will sing favorite Christmas carols by candlelight–and all in about 1 hour. A great opportunity to invite family members or friends.

#### Come Worship with the Wise Men

On January 6, plan to stay after worship for a piece of rosca, the traditional "kings' bread," as we observe the kings' worship of Jesus. We'll have hot cocoa, too. (Need to run? Take a slice of rosca with you.) And if you find a small figure of baby Jesus in your rosca, save it in order to bring it back on February 3rd, when we celebrate the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Nursery & Children's Worship:** We provide Nursery for children 6 months through 4 years and two Children's Worship rooms. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade may attend Young Children in Worship, and 3rd to 5th Grade may attend Following Jesus.

**Youth:** Youth Group Gatherings will resume Janurary 27th. See you then! Future dates are: February 10th and 24th, March 9th, and April 6th and 20th.

#### UPCOMING SERMONS

Advent & Christmas at Savior

Christmas Eve, Kevin Miller, I Got There First, by Moshe the Sheep Herder December 30, Sarah Lindsay, Luke 2:22-40

#### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for supporting this ministry of "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life."

This Year's Giving Goal: \$365,000 As of December 16:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$353,925 Actual Giving = \$297,046 Over/(Under) = (\$56,879)

Donations to Church of the Savior: ☑ Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187 ☐ friendsofthesavior.org/giving Altar & Acolytes Audio Visual Team Care Coordination College Ministry Intercessory Prayer Meals Ministry Prayer and Communion Prayers of the People Scripture Readers Setup Welcome Team

Sandy Oyler Erik Peterson kevin@friendsofthesavior.org Sarah Lindsay sheri.l.abel@gmail.com Cara Peterson Marj Mead Deb Nickerson Hope Grant Angel Gonzalez Gayle Koehler

To ask about a ministry or volunteer to get involved, please talk with its leader (emails are found at friendsofthesavior.org/serve) or with Pastor Sarah Lindsay (sarah@friendsofthesavior.org).

# VESTRY

Christine Sloat: Senior Warden Synthia Cathcart: Junior Warden Karen Bailey: Church Clerk Karen Miller Kevin Miller Deb Nickerson Sandy Oyler Rick Page Alan Savage christine.kindberg@gmail.com arnold.cathcart@gmail.com Kevin Miller Karen Miller Brad Lindsay Sandy Oyler kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org deaconbrad@friendsofthesavior.org deacon@friendsofthesavior.org

#### ASSISTING CLERGY

Bill Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Linda Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired

#### STAFF

Rector: Kevin Miller Associate Rector: Karen Miller Pastor of Family Ministries: Mary Gonzalez Pastor of Music and Worship: John Rakes Pastor of Adult Formation: Sarah Lindsay Director of Communications: Caprice Miller Bookkeeper: Jean Ann Parker Family Ministries Admin: Sydney DePasquale kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org mary@friendsofthesavior.org john@friendsofthesavior.org sarah@friendsofthesavior.org caprice@friendsofthesavior.org jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org sydney@friendsofthesavior.org



Journeying Together: Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life

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